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COUNTY PRESCRIPTION DISCOUNT PROGRAM SHOWS STEADY SAVINGS GROWTH

The Knox County Commission announced today the County's Prescription Drug Discount program is expected to cross the \$100,000 resident savings milestone later this year. While overall program usage was down slightly in 2012, average price savings per prescription climbed 15% to an average of \$16.35 compared to \$14.24 during 2011. Last February, Commissioners voted to adopt a new revenue sharing agreement with NACo, the National Association of Counties, which increased the savings per prescription.

NACo provides the service free of charge to Knox County through its membership in the association. The program, in turn, is provided at no charge to all County residents.

Available to any Knox County resident, the program has provided an average savings of nearly 26% for each discount-eligible prescription since the program was started in February of 2008. In 2012, Knox residents saved a total of \$19,209.

According to County Administrator Andrew Hart, "*Program eligibility is simple. The only requirement is to be a resident of Knox County.*" There are no ability or disability or other insurance or income qualifiers. While the card is designed to provide the most value to under or uninsured residents, it may still provide a discount to those who already have adequate insurance.

The cards are widely available throughout the County in town offices, libraries and other civic and some non-profit agencies. Residents may also download a card for immediate use through the County website at www.knoxcountymaine.gov/ema

If you need more information, or would like to receive cards for your neighborhood, organization, church or business, contact the Knox County Emergency Management Agency at 594-5155. Residents who prefer the convenience of a card mailed directly to them, can call the Emergency Management office to request one. The agency has speakers available to present the program to your group upon request.

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The Knox County Rx Drug Discount program currently has 3,050 utilizers